

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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It should be appreciated that although a processor 38 and memory device 40 are preferable implementations of the present invention, the present invention can also be implemented using one or more application-specific integrated circuits (ASIC's) or other hard-wired devices, or using mechanical devices (collectively referred to herein as a "processor"). Furthermore, although the processor 38 and memory device 40 preferably reside on each gaming device 10 unit, it is possible to provide some or all of their functions at a central location such as a network server for communication to a playing station such as over a local area network (LAN), wide area network (WAN), Internet connection, microwave link, and the like. The processor 38 and memory device 40 are generally referred to herein as the "computer" or the "controller."

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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Fig. 5A also includes a preferably randomly generated wild symbol 110 shown as a "W" on reel 34b and payline 56a. Fig. 5B illustrates that the game of the present example maintains a feature whereby the randomly appearing wild symbol 110 on the central display device 30, as indicated by Fig. 5A, in turn replaces or substitutes for every display symbol on the wild symbol's associated reel, 34b, as indicated by Fig. 5B. The preferred method of the present invention evaluates the player's winnings, according to a predetermined payable, in two steps.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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Referring to Figs. 9A and 9B, one preferred method of the present invention is illustrated in a slot machine embodiment, wherein a preferably randomly generated wild symbol 110 on a central display device 30 replaces one or more, but not all, non-wild displayed symbols on a row and reel associated with or containing the wild symbol 110. Figs. 9A and 9B include five reels 34a through 34e and three paylines 56a through 56c. Fig. 9B illustrates a wild symbol on reel 34b and payline 56c replacing a one-bar symbol on the same position in Fig. 9A. Fig. 9B also illustrates a wild symbol on reel 34c and payline 56a replacing a three-bar symbol on the same position in Fig. 9A. The present invention contemplates a symbol replacement on the top, bottom, left or right of the preferably randomly generated wild symbol 110. The symbol replacement is preferably but does not have to be adjacent to the generated wild symbol 110. The embodiment of Figs. 9A and 9B contemplates any number, less than all, of displayed symbol replacements on an associated row and reel.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

5 The draw poker game preferably contains one or more card exchanges, wherein the game enables the player to keep certain cards and discard others. That is, the player can for example keep a pair of kings and a wildcard and discard a four and a two. The game will issue two new replacement cards. The game can then enable another card exchange. The evaluation method applies to a draw poker game having a card exchange the same as described above. After the game enables the player to exchange cards, the game employs the evaluation sequence by: (i) providing an award for winning card combinations present before activating or equating the wildcard; and (ii) providing an award for winning card combinations present after activating or equating the wildcard.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

60 In the second step evaluation, the player again wins 50 credits for obtaining three cherry symbols along payline 56a, 100 credits for the heart-heart-cherry combination on reels 34a, 34b and 34c of payline 56b and 10 more credits for the heart-heart combination on reels 34b and 34c and payline 56c. The total for the second step evaluation is 160 credits and the total for the alternative slot machine embodiment round is 210.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

71 Fig. 15A includes the initial hand 126 including an eight of diamonds, a two of spades, a two of hearts, an ace of clubs and an ace of diamonds. In the first evaluation of the alternative embodiment, the player receives five credits for the two of a kind two's and five credits for the two of a kind ace's, according to Fig. 12, for a total of 10 credits. For the second evaluation every ace is replaced by an eight of the same suit. The ace of clubs changes to the eight of clubs and the ace of diamonds changes to the eight of diamonds. The player therefore receives 50 credits for a full house eight's over two's, according to Fig. 12. The game contemplates enabling two of the same card to exist in one hand at the same time, e.g., two eight of diamonds as illustrated in Fig. 15B. The player again preferably does not win constituent combinations in the poker embodiment. The total win for the alternative method poker embodiment is 60 credits.

FIG. 15A